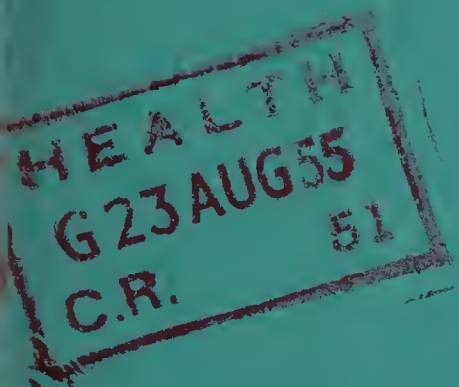


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BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

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1954

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J. & C. MORT, LTD., STAFFORD



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1954

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H. B. BINKS

*Medical Officer of Health*

IVOR O. WILLIAMS

*Chief Sanitary Inspector*

# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN C. H. MERREY, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR R. L. TYLER

THE MAYOR : COUNCILLOR C. JONES

Ald.	C. E Fowke	Coun.	F. Snare
,,	G. Owen, O.B.E., J.P.	,,	R. Turney (Mrs.), c.c.
Coun.	A. E. Collins	,,	F. H. Wheeler
,,	M. E. E. Hillsdon (Miss)	,,	L. Wilford (Mrs.)
,,	I. H. Moseley (Miss)	,,	E. M. Williams (Mrs.)
,,	D. T. Oliver		

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## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

\*H. B. BINKS, M.B., Ch.B. (Ed.), D.P.H. (Camb.)

## DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (Part-time) :

A. V. CAMPBELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Analyst—A. HOULBROOKE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Deputy—Miss J. D. PEDEN, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

## CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

\*I. O. WILLIAMS, Cert.R.San.Inst., and Certificated Meat Inspector.

## ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :

\*K. A. SIMS, Cert., S.I.B.

\*W. A. STOCKER, Cert.S.I.B. and Certificated Meat Inspector.

\*G. ATHERTON, Cert.S.I.B. and Certificated Meat Inspector.

SENIOR CLERK : Mrs. H. N. JACKSON

Clerks : T. T. WILLIAMS

MISS E. M. ARKINSTALL

\*Salaries contributed to under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.



BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE

5, MARTIN STREET,

STAFFORD

JUNE, 1955

**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Public Health Committee**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the eightieth Annual Report on the health of the people of Stafford. It is drawn up in accordance with the instructions laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 28/54, dated 15th December, 1954.

The health of the population assessed by the statistics issued by the Registrar-General indicates a year of comparative freedom from infectious disease, see page 40. In contrast, fifty years ago, when the population was approximately half of what it is today, the then Medical Officer of Health reported that there was a gratifying decrease in the amount of infectious disease in that year although 98 children died before reaching their first birthday—and there were 4 small outbreaks of Smallpox. In addition the following deaths were recorded, Typhoid 3, Diphtheria 2, Measles 8, Diarrhoea 16.

As regards sickness in the community as a whole, information obtained from the Ministry of National Insurance indicates that the number of sickness claims per week were very similar to the corresponding weeks of the year before, except that the rate rose towards the end of the year due to an epidemic of Influenza which eventually was identified as due to the 'B' type of the disease. The outbreak was not associated with a high mortality. On page 38 the weekly figures have been summarised into quarterly totals.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**—In 1952, the Ministry of Health intimated through Regulations that the necessity for the keeping of a Register of Tuberculosis Cases by the Medical Officer of Health of a District was no longer obligatory, but the Minister urged that such a Register should be still kept. That the Minister had good reason for such a recommendation can be assessed by the table and observations set out on pages 35–37. The mortality from this disease at .1 per 1,000 compares favourably with the rate obtaining throughout the country. At one time Stafford had one of the highest rates from this disease in the country.

Once again the attention, of all who are interested in children, is drawn to the necessity of keeping up and improving upon the number of children being immunised against Diphtheria. Whooping Cough protection is also well worth while, and, in the publicity which will be forthcoming when a safe protective agent against Poliomyelitis is introduced, let it not be forgotten that Smallpox can be a scourge when introduced into an unvaccinated population.

The year under review disclosed a further development in the pattern of orderly action mentioned in my report last year.

On October 1st, Stafford became a Specified Area, and thus milk for sale to the public had either to be Tuberculin Tested or Heat Treated—see page 29.

Also on the same date under Section 64 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Stafford assumed responsibility of, and took over, the functions of Food and Drugs Authority, see page 30.

HOUSING.—There appears to be still a shortage of houses, for the Manager of the Ministry of Labour and National Service Employment Exchange in his report on Social conditions states that one in ten of the employed population do not reside in Stafford, and the Housing Manager states that his lists contain the names of 861 householders and 942 lodgers, a total of 1,803 applicants for houses. There are also those who will require housing from condemned properties. The response to the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, whereby owners of houses may receive grants, is beginning to be appreciated, and is being increasingly used by the Public (see page 22.)

WATER.—The new Pumping Station at Milford is nearing completion, and actually was in operation in April of 1955.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.—Construction of new works is up to Schedule.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND SERVICE.—Employment is high, (see page 6), and there has been increased activity by the Public in voluntary work (see pages 10, 11).

I would again express my thanks to the members of the Council for their continued consideration and support in my work and to my colleagues and members of my staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. B. BINKS.

# REPORT

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## SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### General Statistics

Area of Borough	.. .. .	5,089 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of population, mid-1954	.. .. .	40,940
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to Rate Books	.. .. .	11,609
Rateable Value (31st March, 1954)	.. .. .	£268,806
Sum represented by a penny rate (1953—54)		£1,077

The total of 11,609 inhabited houses is made up as follows :—

Houses	.. .. .	11,188
Licensed Houses	.. .. .	88
Farm Houses	.. .. .	16
Shops with living accommodation	..	317
		<hr/> 11,609 <hr/>

### Social Conditions

The Social Conditions existing in Stafford can be seen from the following survey which has kindly been supplied by Mr. Arnold, Ministry of Labour and National Service Employment Exchange.

“Employment in Stafford during the year 1954 was maintained at a very high level, with a further expansion in engineering, particularly electrical engineering. The rate of unemployed remained well below the national and (Midlands) regional figures, moreover, some 500 vacancies, mostly for skilled workers, remained unfilled. Accom-



modation and housing is of primary importance if local industries are to obtain the skilled workers they urgently need. About one in ten of the employed population (about 28,000) do not reside in Stafford, while some 900 resident workers travel daily to work in adjacent areas."

"Approximate numbers of persons employed in the principal industries and services in Stafford compiled from National Insurance records.

<i>Industry or Service</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Engineering, metal goods and vehicle repairs .. .. .	8,750	2,000	10,750
Local Government (including Education, Health & Police Services .. .. .	1,600	1,100	2,700*
Distributive Trades .. .. .	1,100	1,000	2,100
Shoe Manufacture .. .. .	920	1,150	2,070
Abrasives and Cast Concrete Products .. .. .	1,250	370	1,620
Transport and Communications	1,300	200	1,500
Agriculture and Forestry .. .. .	1,250	150	1,400*
Building and Civil Engineering .. .. .	1,150	20	1,170
Salt Production .. .. .	320	60	380
Gas and Electricity Supply .. .. .	340	20	360
Sawmilling, Machine Woodworking and Furniture .. .. .	210	60	270
Chemicals and Oil Products .. .. .	180	40	220
Printing .. .. .	130	80	210
Wood Heel and Last Manufacture .. .. .	100	50	150

\* Estimated total for Stafford District.  
Borough figures not available.

#### Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year 1954.

##### Live Births (See table 1, Page 39).

Registered live births :—

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate .. .. .	646	320	326
Illegitimate .. .. .	28	12	16
	<hr/> 674	<hr/> 332	<hr/> 342

**Birth Rate .. 16.46 per 1,000 population**



**Still Births**

Legitimate	..	..	17	..	8	..	9
Illegitimate	..	..	3	..	3	..	—
			20				11
						9	

**Still Birth Rate** .. **0.49 per 1,000 population** ..

**Deaths**

From all causes	..	484	..	249	..	235
-----------------	----	-----	----	-----	----	-----

**Death Rate** .. **11.82 per 1,000 population**

From puerperal causes :—

		Deaths		Rate per 1,000
		1953	1954	total (live and still) births
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	..	0	0	—
Other maternal causes	..	1	1	1.44
Total	.. ..	1	1	1.44

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	.. ..	31.16
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	.. ..	29.41
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	.. ..	71.43

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	.. ..	79
„ „ Measles (all ages)	.. ..	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	.. ..	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	.. ..	—

The Registrar-General supplies “Comparability Factors” to each district based on the age and sex of its population as shown at the last Census. When the recorded death rate of a town is multiplied by this factor the corrected death rate is obtained. This is to enable a comparison to be made with the death rates of other towns even though the population may vary as to its age composition. The factor for Stafford is 1.08. The corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is therefore 12.8. Similarly for the Birth Rate—the factor is 0.98 and the corrected Birth Rate is 16.1,

Notes on Vital Statistics

BIRTHS.

The total number of live births for the year was .. 674  
There were 332 males and 342 females.

The birth rate at 16.46 per 1,000 compares with 15.2 for England and Wales (see table 3, page 40).

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered in 1954 was .. 484  
of these 249 were males and 235 were females.

Last year I reported more fully on the reasons for the increased death rate. The Ministry requests that any death occurring in a Mental Hospital or Chronic Sick Hospital or Home, is to be credited to that District in which the Hospital or Home is situated. The place of normal residence of the person has no bearing on the matter.

In recording the number of deaths due to cancer of the lung from 1950 onwards it will be noted that for the years 1953 and 1954 the increase has been greater in the Hospital group due probably to the transfer in of chronic sick from districts around. The numbers involved however are too small to base any conclusions thereon.

Year	Popula- tion	Total deaths from Cancer of all forms	Total deaths from Cancer of the lung	In Homes and Hospitals	Ratio of lung to all forms of Cancer
1950	40,060	53	7	2	7.6
1951	40,110	70	7	3	10.0
1952	40,750	77	10	4	7.7
1953	40,820	85	13	6	6.5
1954	40,940	79	11	5	7.3

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

The principal causes of death, their rates and their percentage are given below.

		Rates per 1,000 of the population		Percentage of total deaths	
		1953	1954	1953	1954
Heart Disease	..	5.02	3.18	38.5	26.90
Cancer	..	2.08	1.93	16.2	16.33
Bronchitis, Pneu- monia, etc.	..	1.32	1.05	10.2	8.9
Tuberculosis	..	0.17	0.1	1.31	0.82
Road deaths	..	0.12	0.15	0.92	1.24

On page 41 is a Short List of Causes of Death as supplied by the Registrar-General.

## Infantile Mortality

The rate for Stafford is 31.16 compared with 25.5 for England and Wales as a whole.

The following table shows the causes of death of babies under 1 year of age. Unfortunately, lives are still being lost through accidents like Asphyxia and to infections like Pneumonia and Peritonitis. Knowledge is accumulating as to the causes of the death of babies in the later months of pregnancy and in the early days of life. A further reduction in the infant mortality rate can therefore be anticipated.

Causes of Death of Babies under 1 year	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Tumour .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Prematurity .. ..	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Peritonitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital Deformity	1	1	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	5
Accidental asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	3
Erythroblastic Anæmia .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Intercranial haemorrhage ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Thymolymphaticus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Atelectasis .. ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>

## SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The County Council, as the Local Health Authority, and the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, as the Hospital and Specialised Services Authority, carry out in this area the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946.



The Local Health Authority is responsible, under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, for:—

- (21) The provision, equipping, and maintenance of Health Centres.
- (22) The making of arrangements for the care of mothers and young children.
- (23) Midwifery.
- (24) Health Visiting.
- (25) Home Nursing.
- (26) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (27) Ambulance Services.
- (28) Prevention of illness—care and after care.
- (29) Domestic Help.

The Local Health Authority has delegated day to day duties to Area Committees under Part III of the National Health Service Act. There are nine such, and Stafford Borough is included in No. 3. Representatives to serve on the Committee are as follows :—

Representatives appointed by County Health Committee  
—4. Representatives appointed by Councils of County Districts.—Stafford Borough 4, Stafford R.D. 2, Stone U.D. 1, Stone R.D. 2, Executive Council Representative 1, Regional Hospital Board Representative 1.

An Executive Council, constituted for the area of the Local Health Authority, administers the General Medical, Dental, Pharmaceutical and supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 50.**

#### **Burial of Destitute Persons.**

One destitute person was buried by the Council under the powers conferred on it under the above mentioned Act.

#### **Social Services.**

Two new voluntary organisations have been formed during the year.

A Local Home Safety Committee was constituted towards the end of the year, and was able, by means of posters, etc., to carry out active propaganda work appropriate for the Christmas Season.

The need for such a Committee is evident from the following statement:—

During the last ten years 57,413 people died in this country as a direct result of a home accident. For 1953, children under 5 years of age accounted for 12% and old people of 65 years and over for 69% of all accidents, a total of nearly 6,000 deaths for that year.

The Chairman is Councillor Miss Moseley and the Secretary is Mrs. J. W. Young, and your Medical Officer is a member of the Committee.

A Council of Social Service has been formed under the Presidency of the Mayor, and the Chairmanship of Mr. D. J. D. Smith, M.A., of which Mr. B. Wilson, M.A., is the Secretary.

The main object is to assist in various ways the Voluntary Social Services in the town. The Borough Council and other Statutory bodies are represented in addition to the principal voluntary organisations. After discussion, it was determined that initially attention should be devoted to the elderly. Again, since help for this section of the community can be afforded in many ways, it was decided, as a first step, to organise a service of home visiting. When this is established, the work of the Council will be extended to other fields, for which almost unlimited opportunities exist.

Other voluntary associations who actively concern themselves with the aged are the Stafford Old People's Welfare, the Darby and Joan Club, the Red Cross Society and in addition, the Pennycrofts Resident Association and the Littleworth Old Age Pensioners' Club (dealt with more fully in last year's report).

These associations are doing good work and among amenities provided are annual holidays, coach trips, social afternoons, teas, chiropody, etc.

Thanks are due to all those who undertake this kindly work.

### **Family Planning.**

Mention should be made of the Stafford, Stone and District Family Planning Clinic who have weekly meetings in North Walls Welfare Centre. The aim and purpose of this Clinic is to make available to all married people sound medical advice, to help them not only to space their children, but to help those who are childless, to have children.

**Residential Homes.**

The County Council have two Residential Homes in the Borough which receive old people who are in need of care and have no homes of their own.

Fernleigh Hostel, Marston Road, which has 172 beds and receives old people of either sex.

Westhorpe—15 beds for ladies only.

Wilford House has accommodation for 14 elderly people of either sex. It is conducted on a voluntary basis by the Eventide Homes Committee.

**Children’s Homes (Local Health Authority).**

Springfield. Thirty six children of all ages are provided for in this home.

Rotherwood. Consists of a Residential Nursery with 30 beds and a home for 32 children.

**Infectious Disease Hospitals.**

During the year the following Borough residents were admitted to Kingswinford, Moxley and Bucknall Isolation Hospitals.

Disease	Cases admitted to Hospitals		
	Kingswinford	Moxley	Bucknall
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	14	—	—
Measles .. .. .	—	9	—
Dysentery .. .. .	—	4	3
Food Poisoning .. .. .	—	1	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	—	1	—



## **Maternity Provision.**

There are 12 beds at Burton House Maternity Home, 5 beds at Fernleigh Hospital, and the General Infirmary makes provision for complicated cases.

## **Clinics.**

Under Local Health Authority:—

The Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, North Walls.  
School Clinic, Lammascote Road.

Under Local Hospital Authority :—

Clinic for Venereal Diseases is held at The General Infirmary.  
Orthopaedic Clinic at General Infirmary.  
Chest Clinic, Mill Bank.

## **Hospitals**

At the Staffordshire General Infirmary, Foregate Street, 167 beds are available for General Surgery and Medical cases. There is also a Male Fracture Ward of 16 beds.

At Fernleigh Hostel, Marston Road, there are 132 beds for the chronic sick and 5 cots for children.

For the mental sick is St. George's Hospital, which includes the premises formerly known as Coton Hill. These provide 1,238 beds. Patients are also referred to Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Manchester, North Staffs., and Stoke Hospitals.

## **Laboratory Facilities.**

During the year 827 reports were received from the Public Health Laboratory Service on specimens submitted for Bacteriological examination.

The Laboratory of the County Council carries out the analysis and examination of Milk, Water, and Foodstuffs (See pages 15, 30–33).

## Royal Brine Baths.

The Baths Superintendent has supplied the following report on the activities at the Baths during the year :—

“The number of attendances at the Royal Brine Baths reached an all time record of 154,522 in the year 1954/1955, made up as follows :—

Private Brines .. ..	4,815
Brine Swim .. ..	4,498
Private Warm Baths .. ..	22,773
Fresh-Water Swim .. ..	72,929
Schools Swimming .. ..	48,273
Private Swimming Lessons ..	1,234

The largest increase was in Fresh-water Swimming, approximately 4,000 over the previous year. Winter Swimming both with the Schools and general public is getting more popular. The Private Brine Departments are well patronised by the Hospital Patients who derive great benefit from this treatment.”

## Ambulances

This service, which is County Council controlled, has proved adequate during the year.

## Mortuary.

Bodies were received at the Borough Mortuary as follows:

Borough residents .. ..	38
Non-residents who died in the Borough .. ..	1
Brought in from outside the Borough .. ..	14
Non-civilians .. ..	—
	<hr/>
	53
	<hr/>
Post-mortem examinations .. ..	38

## SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water Supply.

All houses, with the exception of six which have their own wells, are on the main water supply derived from the bore holes at Milford and Shugborough. The water has maintained its quality.

Thirty-seven water samples were taken for bacteriological investigation and ten taken for chemical analysis.

Respective reports for the December quarter are set out below:—

The County Analyst reports that no solvent action on lead has been detected in samples submitted during the year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL REPORT

December, 1954	Milford Old Well	Milford New Well	Shugboro'	Town
Probable number of Coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C .. .. .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

	Sample from			
	Town December Quarter	Milford Old Well December Quarter Parts per	Shug- borough Well December Quarter 100,000	Milford New Well December Quarter
pH Value .....	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.5
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F .....	35.0	65.0	24.0	26.0
Free and Saline Ammonia ..	0.0008	0.0048	Nil.	0.0004
Albuminoid .....	0.0012	0.0036	Nil.	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen .....	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.20
Chlorine present as Chloride	7.15	14.1	3.8	2.6
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F .....	0.021	0.044	0.002	0.006
Appearance .....	Clear ex- cept for minute trace of suspended matter	Clear. Minute trace of suspended matter	Clear. Minute trace of suspended matter	Clear. Minute trace of suspended matter
Injurious Metallic Contami- nation .....	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total Hardness .....	12.6°	21.5°	9.8°	11.2°
Permanent Hardness .....	7.2°	13.6°	6.1°	6.9°
Temporary Hardness .....	5.4°	7.9°	3.7°	4.3°



The Water Engineer has furnished the following information on the Town Water Supply:—

“For the year ending 31st March, 1955, the total water consumption amounted to 846 million gallons, a decrease of 8 million gallons on the previous year. This represents 21.49 and 24.86 (total 46.35) gallons per head per day for domestic and trade purposes respectively.

“The population supplied has increased with the rise in the population of the Borough.

“The increased rainfall over the latter half of 1954 and the early months of 1955 resulted in a marked rise in ground water levels with the result that the quantity of water purchased was reduced by 75% on the 1st April, 1955. On the same date the new Milford Pumping Station was brought into use and the Department is now favourably placed to meet any demands which may be made upon it.

“Main extensions to meet the requirements of both Private and Municipal development have continued throughout the year.”

### **Sewage Disposal Works.**

The Borough Engineer advises that constructional work on the new Sewage Disposal Works is now 50% completed, and, despite the bad weather which has been prevalent during the past year, progress has been almost up to the forecast programme.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

During the year additions to surface and foul water sewers have been constructed as follows :—

SURFACE WATER SEWERS—1,152 lineal yards at Manor Estate Extension, Prospect Road, Stone Road, Crab Lane, Lichfield Road, and Highfields Estate.

FOUL WATER SEWERS—1,435 lineal yards at Manor Estate Extension, Prospect Road, Rickerscote Road, Crab Lane, Common Road, Main Drainage, Greenfields Lane, and Highfields Estate.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

#### **Industrial Smoke**

The Salt Works, contained in an area which has been for some years productive of large volumes of smoke and comprising some 19 chimneys owned by two firms, was revisited by the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee. The purpose of the revisit was to see the progress made in modernising the various plants by the installation of underfeed stokers to the salt pans. The Committee found that the larger company have 19 pans in operation and that each pan was fired by two underfeed stokers, in lieu of the 3 open fires used previously, with a gratifying reduction in smoke emission. They also learnt that the Company were pleased with the economic aspect of the change over and that visits had been made to the works by interested parties from other parts of the Country.

Following upon the visit to the area and, on interview with the management of the smaller works, an undertaking was elicited from them that within two years they will not give cause for any further complaint arising from smoke emission.

### **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

#### **Closet Accommodation**

A grant of 50/- is available for the conversion of waste water closets, and 41 were so dealt with. There still remains 565 of these. Also there are 32 pail closets and 1 midden type. The department dealt with 776 drain stoppages affecting 4,384 houses. Warning letters were sent to occupiers if the stoppages were caused by unsuitable articles.

The tabular statement below contains the number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors with the number of notices served and the result of such notices.

	No. of Inspec- tions	No. of Notices.			
		In- formal 1	Stat- utory 2	Complied with	
				1	2
<b>DWELLINGHOUSES :—</b>					
Repairs to dwellinghouses	1983	105	12	97	11
Houses requiring cleans- ing and verminous houses	11	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences ..	101	27	4	26	4
House drainage defects ..	327	67	2	67	2
Dustbins .....	1015	—	—	—	—
Accumulation of refuse ..	9	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .....	226	4	—	4	—
Water supply .....	26	—	—	—	—
Factories (Mechanical) In- cluding Bakehouses. Food preparing premises, ice cream manufacturers ..	152	9	—	8	—
Factories (Non Mechanical)	105	4	—	4	—
Slaughterhouses.....	1119	—	—	—	—
Shops where food is sold ..	484	8	—	7	—
Fried Fish Shops .....	42	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades .....	2	—	—	—	—
Dairies .....	21	—	—	—	—
Piggeries, or animals kept, etc.....	65	11	—	11	—
Market Inspections .....	38	—	—	—	—
Ice Cream Shops .....	49	—	—	—	—
Cafes .....	31	2	—	1	—
Public Houses .....	49	3	—	2	—
Cinemas .....	12	1	—	1	—
Visits to infectious cases ..	123	—	—	—	—
Smoke observations.....	105	8	—	—	—
Other nuisances .....	81	5	—	5	—
Rehousing of Families ....	507	—	—	—	—
Caravans .....	68	—	—	—	—
Refuse Tips .....	9	—	—	—	—
Pet shops .....	5	—	—	—	—
Housing Acts (Improve- ment Grants) .....	39	—	—	—	—
Certificate of Dis-repair ..	5	—	—	—	—
Purchasing of samples of Foods .....	92	—	—	—	—



Factory Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	15	20	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	154	152	9	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)....	44	85	3	—
Total.....	213	257	13	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.....	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .....	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature .....	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors .....	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient .....	5	4	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	8	8	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .....	—	—	—	—	—
Total .....	13	12	—	1	—

Homework Section 110(1) (c) Factory Act, 1937. The number of outworkers engaged in the making, etc., of wearing apparel is 3.

**Refuse Disposal.**

The collection and disposal of refuse is under the supervision of the Borough Engineer.

Refuse tips are kept under observation by the Chief Sanitary Inspector and nuisances caused by rat infestation, flies, etc., are dealt with.

**Dustbins.**

The Corporation issued 859 dustbins during the year and since the commencement of the scheme in 1950, whereby worn-out dustbins are replaced free of charge to householders, 3,359 dustbins have been provided.

**Byelaws as to the Keeping of Pigs.**

Under the guidance of the Sanitary Inspectors the enforcement of the byelaws has been carried out and no legal action has been necessary.

**Verminous Houses.**

Corporation and private houses numbering 40 have been disinfested for vermin and where tenants have moved to new houses.

**Offensive Trades.**

There is one offensive trade on the Register—that of a Gut Scraper.

**Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

Licences have been issued to owners of five Pet Shops.

**Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

The Authorised Pest Officer, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, is assisted by a Pest Operator. During the year the following number of premises were treated.

	Local Authority Properties		Business Premises		Dwelling-houses		Total Premises
	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice	
Number treated ..	14	3	32	22	153	32	256
Visits .. ..	123	5	98	35	552	36	849

The amount of poison bait eaten by rats was approximately 7 cwts 67lbs. and by mice 1 cwt. 108 lbs. 7 lbs. of gassing powder was also used for destruction of rats.



## SECTION D.—HOUSING

Reports have been continued during the year to acquaint the Housing Committee more exactly as to the number of and location of the bad houses in the Borough and to obtain a decision from them as to those areas which should be dealt with first and also as to the method, i.e. whether to take in large areas as a whole or whether to deal with them piecemeal. At the same time, it was pointed out that many of these derelict houses are occupied by those who will require special provision for their needs. To this end, certain groups of the less derelict type of houses have been reported to the Surveyor for consideration as to their conversion into dwellings suited to the aged, or for their modernisation to meet the needs of small families.

In support of the claim for the consideration of buildings suitable for the older members of the population, it is interesting to study the table presented by the Housing Manager on page 26. There, it may be pointed out, are requests from old age pensioners numbering 97, of which no less than 83 are from householders. It is probable that these elderly folk find their houses too large, and, if they could be economically rehoused, their houses would be available for younger members of the community and their families. In this connection, I would press the Committee to consider again the advisability of the scheme adopted by some authorities whereby 14 to 16 single dwellings are included in one building with a caretaker in charge, whose services are available in exchange for free rent and domestic help pay, the husband being the stoker. Other advantages are—each family lives as a self-contained unit—there is a communal room and one guest room, in charge of the caretaker. The scheme could be extended and made more economic by building in two storeys—the upper flats being let to childless couples or single people. It's a partial solution too, whereby those aged could be cared for who are not bad enough to require a bed in one of the Hospitals and yet under present conditions have to be accommodated in Part III accommodation. If this latter suggestion should be contemplated, then the County Council should be interested in the project.

Returning to housing as a whole and Slum Clearance in particular, the Housing Committee have acceded to the request for a larger percentage of new houses being allocated,



and have stepped up the percentage from 10% to 20%. This meant for 1954, 26 houses, since 132 were erected. Obviously, the rate of building must increase or the allocation must be greater still.

Representations have been made as to 19 houses in Grey Friars Place and 8 houses in South Walls. During the year, 25 families were rehoused from houses to be demolished, and by the time this report is published all the families in the 41 houses in North Walls will be rehoused.

In 1955, a special meeting of the Housing Committee considered a report from this Department dealing with parts 2 and 3 of the Housing Act, 1936, and Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and came to decisions which enabled the Required Form of Proposal to be completed and forwarded to the Minister.

### **Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 Part II.**

#### **Sections 23—26. Repairs Increase.**

Applications were made for a "Certificate of Disrepair," in connection with three dwellinghouses. The three applicants were issued with the necessary Certificate, and reports by the Chief Sanitary Inspector were considered by the Committee.

### **Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.**

#### **Improvement Grants.**

The Housing Committee gave full consideration to the above mentioned Act, and the Chairman, in presenting the report of the Committee to the Council, spoke at length on the grant available to owners of property with regard to improvement. The press also gave prominence to the scheme.

The Town Clerk has received numerous enquiries, and particulars of requirements to qualify for a grant have been given by him to owners of property. He also advises all prospective applicants to see the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and, in doing so, advice and help is given.

Although only seven applications were considered by the Committee (2 of which were not granted), since the Act came into force in August, a number of applicants were waiting for builders estimates at the end of the year. It is anticipated that advantage of the provisions of the Act will be taken by owners of dwellinghouses with regard to the installation of baths and hot water where no such conveniences exist.

The Committee was informed by the department as to the necessity of improvement to corporation owned houses, and it was hoped that all houses owned by the Corporation which have a life of at least 20 years, will be modernised within the next few years.

## Housing Statistics.

### NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(1) By the Local Authority	..	..	132
(2) By other Local Authorities	..	..	—
(3) By other bodies and persons	..		98
TOTAL			230

### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	573
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	648
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (Included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	199
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	246
(3) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	192
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	217

### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	194
---	-----

### 3. ACTION TAKEN UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

#### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:        |     |
| (a) By owners .. .. .   | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..  | Nil |

#### B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. . | 17  |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :                 |     |
| (a) By owners .. .. .  | 17  |
| (b) By Local Authorities in default of owners ..   | Nil |

#### C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .... .. | 6 |
| (2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .             | 6 |

#### D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. .  | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .. .. . | Nil |

### 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV. OVERCROWDING.

Under (a), (b), (c), (d) of this section of the Housing Act, the report is NIL.



## Moveable Dwellings.

For the purpose of siting trailer caravans for a limited period, 16 licences were issued and permission was refused in 3 instances.

## Housing.

The following information has been supplied by Mr. Higson, the Borough Surveyor.

### HOUSES ERECTED BETWEEN 1.1.54 TO 31.12.54.

Corporation houses .. .. .	132
Other houses .. .. .	98
	<hr/>
	230
	<hr/>

### HOUSES IN COURSE OF ERECTION 31.12.54

Corporation houses .. .. .	383
Other houses .. .. .	35
Air Ministry .. .. .	151
	<hr/>
	569
	<hr/>

### HOUSES ERECTED FROM 1945 TO THE END OF 1954

Corporation houses	
Permanent .. .. .	1,845
Temporary .. .. .	225
Other houses .. .. .	584
	<hr/>
	2,654
	<hr/>

The Housing Manager has supplied the following table of applicants for houses—included in the table are many applicants who reside outside the Borough.

# House Letting—Review of Applications 21st September, 1954

HOUSEHOLDERS		Applicants residing in the Borough	Applicants residing Outside the Borough	Applicants residing Outside and Working Outside the Borough
Man and Wife .. ..	..	106	24	6
Man, Wife and 1 Child ..	..	191	58	8
Man, Wife and 2 Children ..	..	144	68	16
Man, Wife and 3 Children ..	..	49	25	9
Man, Wife and 4 Children ..	..	15	10	14
Man, Wife and 5 Children ..	..	8	5	3
Man, Wife and 6 Children ..	..	1	1	3
Spinsters .. ..	..	2	—	4
Widows .. ..	..	6	—	—
Bachelors .. ..	..	2	—	—
Old Age Pensioners .. ..	..	83	—	—
Total .. ..	..	607	191	63
LODGERS				
Man and Wife .. ..	..	353	53	8
Man, Wife and 1 Child ..	..	297	49	2
Man, Wife and 2 Children ..	..	63	13	5
Man, Wife and 3 Children ..	..	13	4	1
Man, Wife and 4 Children ..	..	6	—	—
Man, Wife and 5 Children ..	..	—	—	—
Man, Wife and 6 Children ..	..	1	—	—
Spinsters .. ..	..	36	—	—
Widows .. ..	..	17	—	—
Bachelors .. ..	..	7	—	—
Old Age Pensioners .. ..	..	14	—	—
Total .. ..	..	807	119	16
Total Householders 861		Total Lodgers 942		Grand Total 1,803

## SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The table on page 18 sets out the visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors and illustrates the nature of the work carried out by them.

The following premises are registered :—

Preparation of sausages, etc. . . . .	20
Manufacture and sale of ice cream . . . . .	7
Sale of ice cream in pre-packed containers . . . . .	58
Fish Frying . . . . .	21

Shops which are visited to which Section 13 applies :—

General, 80; Grocers, 55; Greengrocers, 12; Butchers, 38; Fishmongers, 10; Confectioners, 13; Sweet Shops, 20; Cafes, 16.

### Meat and other Foods.

#### SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES.

The decontrol of meat came into force on the 3rd July, 1954.

Previous to this date, a sub-committee of the Public Health Committee, representatives of the local farmers and butchers association, met to discuss the slaughtering facilities which were available to meet the needs of the district, on decontrol.

The Public Health Committee, after consideration of the report of the sub-committee and the official report on the number of animals slaughtered before the war and during the period of control, resolved that the slaughterhouses of Messrs. Rowland and the Stafford and Stone Cooperative Society were sufficient to meet the needs of the district.

The construction of Messrs. Rowland's Slaughterhouse was completed in 1929 and the Co-operative Slaughterhouse in 1927. These premises have since been approved by the Minister of Food as certification centres, and the Minister has appointed an official grader under the Fatstock Guarantee Scheme.

The analysis of the post-mortems of animals slaughtered is set out below. The Inspector paid 1,119 visits to the Abattoir for this purpose.



# CARCASES RECEIVED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3,838	1,427	876	17,661	14,257
Number inspected	3,838	1,427	876	17,661	14,257
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	9	10	23	35
Portions of carcasses with organs	6	7	3	5	13
Organs only	684	472	4	252	504
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	14.2	19.3	3.7	1.7	3.5
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	10	13	—	—	30
Portions of carcasses with organs	7	10	—	—	9
Organs only	242	584	1	—	587
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.7	29.6	.1	—	3.1
Casualty animals received	30	31	34	104	456

Total weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption : 33 tons, 3 cwts. 80 lbs.

Certificates were issued confirming the unfitness of foods reported to the Department by Provision Merchants in the town. The principal items were :—37 tins of milk, 81 tins of meat, 206 tins of vegetables, 18 tins of fish, 10 stone wet fish, 5 pudding mixtures, 63½ lbs. of cheese, 66 lbs. of fruit, 5 packets of oats, 4 lbs. of rice, 42 tins and packets of soups, 224 lbs. of macaroni, 4 lbs. 10 ozs. of cooking fat, 113 lbs. 14

ozs. of butter, 5 lbs. of bacon, 497 tins and jars of fruit and preserves, 77½ lbs. ham, 140 lbs. cake, 69 lbs. of sausage, 335 lbs. of fresh vegetables, 174 lbs. pearl barley. Sundry items 22.

**Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

THE FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES AND ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950. SPECIFICATION OF AREAS.

The Borough of Stafford became a Specified Area in relation to milk sold within the Borough on the 1st October, 1954, and from the appointed date, it was obligatory that all milk sold by retail be either heat treated (Pasteurised and Sterilised) or Tuberculin Tested Milk.

This Order decrees that only two classes of milk can now be retailed—"Tuberculin Tested," and "Heat Treated," both to be sold in sealed bottles or in similar containers.

During the past years the heat treatment of all milk for human consumption has been advocated for reasons well known to those interested in Public Health. The enforcement of the Order when it came caused little, if any, inconvenience to the retailers in the Borough. There was already a registered Pasteurising Plant in the town and only two (Tuberculin Tested) milk producer retailers.

Two producers, who previously sold "loose" milk, have now conformed to the regulations, and the milk sold is Pasteurised, bottled, and sealed at the Plant in Holmcroft.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of persons issued with Dealers' Licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk .. ..	8
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk.. ..	6

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of persons issued with Dealer's Licences for the sale of Pasteurised Milk .. .. .	20
Number of persons issued with Dealer's Licences for the sale of Sterilised milk .. .. .	25

Number of persons issued with Dealer's Licences to use designation, Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) ..	17
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences for the sale of Pasteurised Milk .. .. .	10
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences for the sale of Sterilised milk .. .. .	8
Number of persons issued with Supplementary Licences to use designation Tuberculin Tested milk (Pasteurised) .. .. .	9

### Sampling of foods

When a population of a district reaches the figure of 40,000, it becomes its own Food and Drugs Authority unless it desires otherwise. In October, therefore, the Borough assumed in full, this responsibility and became a Food and Drugs Authority (Section 64).

Official arrangements were made with the County Council for the Borough Council to continue to use the County Chemical Laboratory and for the County Analyst to be the Public Analyst for the Borough.

The following samples were purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst of the Staffordshire County Council Laboratory from the 1st October to the 31st December, 1954.

<i>Nature of Sample</i>	<i>No. of Informal</i>	<i>No. of Formal</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine</i>
Milk .. .. .	1	29	30	—
Pork Sausage .. .. .	1	13	9	5
Cream Synthetic .. .. .	2	—	2	—
Cream, Tinned .. .. .	1	—	1	—
Crisps .. .. .	1	—	1	—
Ice Cream .. .. .	1	—	1	—
Pie Filling .. .. .	1	—	1	—
Lemon Squash .. .. .	1	—	1	—
Rice .. .. .	1	—	1	—
Apple Dumpling .. .. .	1	—	1	—



The samples of sausage submitted which were not genuine were reported to be deficient of their proper proportion of meat as follows:—

Sample No. 2—8.0%; Sample No. 4—6.8%; Sample No. 7—12.5%; Sample No. 9—7.1%; Sample No. 10—7.5%.

Thirty-nine milk samples were purchased and delivered to the Public Health Laboratory Service, County Buildings, Stafford, for either bacteriological or biological tests. See table below:—

	Phenolphthalein Test		Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Test for Tuberculosis	
	Neg.	Pos.	Passed	Failed	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.
Pasteurised . .	20	—	19	1	20	—	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised	4	—	4	—	4	—	—	—
T.T. Raw Milk . .	1	—	5	3	1	—	1	—

Sterilised Milk—7 samples with negative result on Turbidity Test were submitted.

### Ice Cream.

The Inspector has, in collaboration with his colleagues, and aided by the fact that the trade is gradually falling into the hands of fewer firms, been able to avoid the duplication of samples and thus reduce the number sent for laboratory examination. The list below indicates that the ice cream sold in the district is hygienically safe.

LABORATORY REPORTS ON ICE CREAM (1954)					
	Ice Cream made within the Borough		Ice Cream made outside the Borough		Total
	Heat Treated	Cold Mix	Heat Treated	Cold Mix	
Grade 1	4	4	1	—	9
Grade 2	1	4	—	—	5
Grade 3	—	—	1	—	1
Grade 4	—	—	—	—	—

The following are samples taken by the County Council and included by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

Samples taken from 1st January to 31st September, 1954 :—

Designation	No. of samples taken	Keeping Quality		Test for Tuberculosis	
		Satis.	Unsatis. Methylene Blue test	Neg.	Pos.
Tuberculin Tested	88	45	4	39	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	28	28	—	—	—
Pasteurised ..	101	94	2	5	—
Accredited ..	6	3	—	3	—
Sterilised .. ..	4	4	—	—	—
Undesignated ..	23	10	1	12	—
	250	184	7	59	—

The table below gives the number of samples of milk taken from Producer-Retailers and Retailers who distribute milk within the Borough—the table includes those taken by the Officers of the County Health Department as well as those taken by your Health Department.

	NUMBER	
	By County Council from 1.1.54 to 31.9.54	By Borough Council from 1.10.54 to 31.12.54
PRODUCER-RETAILERS:—		
Milk from own cows .. .. .	58	1
Milk from cows of other producers ..	15	1
RETAILERS:—		
Retailers receiving milk from licensed Pasteurised Plant which is within the Borough .. .. .	71	14
Retailers receiving milk from Pasteurised or Sterilised Plants outside the Borough	63	17
Retailers selling Designated Milk ..	34	6
Retailers selling Undesignated Milk ..	9	—

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the following samples were taken. The County Medical Officer of Health has kindly furnished me with this information :—

Milk: 210—202 genuine; 8 adulterated.

General Foods: 54—one proved to be adulterated or not up to standard. The foods submitted were as follows :—

Apple and Blackcurrant Jam, Beef Suet, Baking Powder, Barley Sugar, Butter, Cheese Spread, Cream Horns, Ceylon Coconut, Compound Fat, Coconut Ice, Cheese and Macaroni, Cornflour, Cheese, Dripping, Desiccated Coconut, Dried Thyme, Dried Parsley, Friarbake, Golden Syrup, Grapefruit Juice, Vitacup, White Pepper, Whipped Cream Walnuts, Ground Coffee, Krusty Crums, Kosher Cooking Fat, Lemon Cheese, Lard, Margarine, Malt Vinegar, Mild Beer, Olive Oil, Puff Pastry, Pearl Barley, Pure Cream, Pork Pie, Potted Salmon, Pure Honey, Self-Raising Flour, Smoked Bacon, Sugar, Tea, Table Jelly, Tomato Ketchup, Teabags.

**SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER,  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

(see table 5, Page 42).

**Diphtheria.**

For the last 3 years, no case of diphtheria has been notified. Immunisation is the responsibility of the County Council but the state of immunisation is of importance to the Borough, and to that end figures have been obtained concerning it and are set out below.

**DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATION, 1954.**

School.	Primary	Re-inforcing
St. Austin's .....	6	16
St. Leonard's Avenue .	7	58
Forebridge .....	7	9
Corporation St. Infants	24	50
Littleworth .....	9	23
Tenterbanks .....	21	47
Holmcroft .....	21	39
Stone Road .....	20	52
St. Patrick's Junior ...	5	14
Rising Brook .....	5	34
Silkmore .....	18	26
Flash Ley .....	21	84
Highfield .....	—	6
Outside Schools .....	1	5
Welfare Centre .....	111	11
Private Doctors .....	328	97
Total .....	604	571



The total number of children who have been immunised under 15 years of age is 7,389, or approximately 82%, of whom 4,412 have received either immunisation or re-inforcement doses within a period of 5 years.

During the year 1,175 children were immunised or received re-inforcement doses but of these only 208 received their immunisation before reaching one year of age, approximately a little more than a quarter of those born. As already mentioned in this and previous reports, this is the most important age at which Immunisation should be commenced.

In common with the rest of the Country, it is essential that the figures of immunisation for the first two years of life should be raised. Safety from an epidemic cannot be assured until some 75% or more of the child population is immunised and in the earliest years of life.

The following figures extracted from the Ministry of Health Circular No. 5/55 are worth recording.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Corrected Notifications</i>
1945	722	18,596
1946	472	11,986
1947	244	5,609
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	23	266
1954	9 (provisional)	182 (provisional)

### **Scarlet Fever.**

Of 64 cases notified, 14 were removed to hospital. There were no deaths. In four instances more than one case occurred in one family. There were no "return" cases.

### **Puerperal Pyrexia.**

Six cases reported. 3 occurred in Hospitals and one was removed from her home to Hospital.

### **Influenza.**

Towards the end of the year Influenza was prevalent in the town with a low mortality.

Selected cases were referred to the laboratory for investigation as to Type. Virus Influenza B. type was found.

**Pneumonia.**

There were 13 Pneumonia cases, 6 fewer than last year.

**Food Poisoning.**

Four cases were notified during the year. The chronicity of the carrier state of some of these cases is well exemplified by one case under our observation who is still excreting the organisms after 18 months.

One case was removed to hospital. All cases and family contacts are followed up until bacteriologically pronounced free.

**Dysentery.**

The notified cases, 7 in number, occurred in a Residential Nursery, and were removed to hospital.

**Measles.**

There were 17 cases and no deaths. Nine cases were removed to hospital.

**Whooping Cough.**

The majority of the 40 notified cases occurred in the first quarter.

**Meningococcal Infection.**

There were 2 notified cases.

**Ophthalmia.**

There was one case notified.

**Tuberculosis.**

There were 35 cases notified—18 less than in the previous year—but, as pointed out in last year's report, the larger number notified was then in all probability due to the visit of the Mass Radiography Units in the town.

The Housing Committee have dealt sympathetically with all requests made or supported by me for rehousing if due to the presence of T.B. either in the family or in the other occupants of a house.

The appointment last year of a Tuberculosis Health Visitor by the County Council has in my opinion been most effective not only as regards general information concerning the cases but also as to the detection of further cases and the following up of contacts.

Analysis of new cases and deaths during the calendar year, 1954 :—

TUBERCULOSIS									
Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS				
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
0—1 .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1—5 .. ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
5—15 .. ..	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	
15—25 .. ..	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	
25—35 .. ..	4	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	
35—45 .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
45—55 .. ..	4	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	
55—65 .. ..	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
65 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals .. ..	16	14	3	2	2	1	—	—	
Ten year average, cases pre-war (1929-38)	21.9	15.6	7.7	5.3	12.6	7.8	2.	1.7	



TUBERCULOSIS.—The death rate for this disease last year was .1 per thousand population. Only once has the rate been lower than this.

The death rates have, from all forms of tuberculosis for the last 10 years, shown a steady decline, e.g.:—

1945—.47, 1946—.28, 1947—.56, 1948—.26, 1949—.28, 1950—.25, 1951—.07, 1952—.12, 1953—.17, 1954—.1.

The “Balance Sheet” for the Register is as follows :—

1954			
On Register at Jan. 1st	201	Deaths .. ..	3
Notifications .. ..	35	Recovered .. ..	22
Transfers in .. ..	18	Transfers out .. ..	20
		Left District, address unknown	3
		On Register at 31st December .. ..	206
	<hr/> 254 <hr/>		<hr/> 254 <hr/>

Admissions to, and discharges from, Institutions were notified as follows :—

	Admissions		Discharge	
Groundslow Sanatorium .. ..	8	..	6	
Prestwood Sanatorium .. ..	1	..	1	
Ivy House, Cannock .. ..	2	..	—	
Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Market Drayton .. ..	1	..	—	

### Public Health Propaganda.

Talks to voluntary associations have been given by members of the staff.

Venereal Disease posters have again been sent to doctors and local factories. Booklets relating to “Clean Foods” and “Clean Catering” have been in demand.

**Home Accidents.**

This matter has been fully dealt with on page 11.

**Road Accidents.**

Active propaganda is carried out by a Committee of the Borough Council, which has kindly supplied these figures.

		<i>Killed</i>	<i>Seriously injured</i>	<i>Slightly injured</i>
1949	..	8	21	140
1950	..	9	29	144
1951	..	4	29	133
1952	..	2	45	151
1953	..	5	48	125
1954	..	3	34	173

Below are the quarterly Sickness figures for an area which includes Stafford Urban and Rural Districts, Stone Urban and Rural Districts, Acton and Bednall, Wheaton Aston, Lapley, Stretton, Dunston and Penkridge, with comparable figures for the previous four quarters.

As already noted, the rise in the last quarter as compared with the similar quarter for 1953 is due to a mild epidemic of Influenza.

		1953	1954
Quarter ended 29th March	.. ..	3,961	3,210
Quarter ended 28th June	.. ..	2,239	2,174
Quarter ended 27th September	.. ..	1,827	1,774
Quarter ended 27th December	.. ..	2,392	2,581
		<hr/> 10,419 <hr/>	<hr/> 9,739 <hr/>

Table 1.—Births and Stillbirths

Year	STAFFORD BOROUGH.				Birth Rate for Smaller Towns of England and Wales
	Total Births	Birth Rate	Total Still Births	Still Birth Rate	
1945 ..	635	18.8	18	27	19.2
1946 ..	685	19.4	26	36	21.3
1947 ..	703	19.7	19	26	22.2
1948 ..	686	18.2	23	32	19.2
1949 ..	755	19.5	17	22	18.0
1950 ..	638	15.9	17	25	16.8
1951 ..	701	17.4	19	20	16.7
1952 ..	674	16.54	9	13	15.5
1953 ..	672	16.5	17	24	15.7
1954 ..	674	16.46	20	28	15.04

Table 2.—Infant mortality for 1954 and previous nine years

Year	Live Births	Under one month		Under one year	
		Deaths	Rate per 1000 births	Deaths	Rate per 1000 births
1945 ..	635	19	29	30	47
1946 ..	685	16	23	27	39
1947 ..	703	14	19	24	34
1948 ..	686	11	16	19	27
1949 ..	755	11	14	16	21
1950 ..	638	6	9	13	20
1951 ..	701	16	22.8	24	34.2
1952 ..	674	12	17.8	16	23.7
1953 ..	672	9	13.4	17	25.3
1954 ..	674	12	17.8	21	31.16



Table 3.—Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases.

	England and Wales	STAFFORD	
		1954	1953
<b>BIRTHS. Rates per 1,000 Home Population:</b>			
Live Births .....	15.2	<b>16.46</b>	16.5
Still Births..... {	24.0	<b>0.49</b>	0.42
		<b>28.82</b>	24.67
		(a)	
<b>DEATHS.</b>			
All Causes .....	11.30	<b>11.82</b>	13.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ....	—	.00	.00
Whooping Cough .....	—	.00	.00
Diphtheria .....	—	.00	.00
Tuberculosis .....	—	0.1	0.17
Influenza.....	—	0.07	.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) .....	—	.00	.00
Pneumonia.....	—	<b>0.171</b>	0.37
<b>NOTIFICATIONS (corrected).</b>			
Typhoid Fever .....	—	.00	.00
Paratyphoid Fever .....	—	.00	0.02
Meningococcal infection .....	—	0.05	0.02
Scarlet Fever.....	—	<b>1.56</b>	2.87
Whooping Cough .....	—	<b>1.07</b>	8.21
Diphtheria .....	—	.00	.00
Erysipelas .....	—	.024	0.02
Measles .....	—	0.42	22.24
Pneumonia .....	—	0.32	0.47
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) Paralytic....	—	.00	.00
Non-Paralytic .....	—	.00	.00
Food Poisoning.....	—	0.1	0.42
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	<b>8.65</b>	5.81
		(a)	
<b>DEATHS. Rates per 1,000 Live Births</b>			
All causes under one year of age	25.5	<b>31.16</b>	25.30
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age .....	.8	.00	.00

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

The rates apply only to the civilian population.

Table 4.—Registrar-General's Short List of Causes of Death

Causes of Death	Total	Males	Females
Tuberculosis of respiratory system .....	4	2	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease .....	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ....	1	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach .....	8	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm lung, bronchus .....	14	13	1
Malignant Neoplasm Breast .....	11	—	11
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus .....	3	—	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	43	28	15
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	1	—	1
Diabetes .....	3	—	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	62	28	34
Coronary disease, angina .....	63	35	28
Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	13	7	6
Other Heart Disease .....	117	54	63
Other circulatory Diseases .....	14	7	7
Influenza .....	3	2	1
Pneumonia .....	7	3	4
Bronchitis .....	36	24	12
Other diseases of respiratory system .....	1	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	9	8	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	5	3	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	2	2	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	1	—	1
Congenital malformations .....	8	4	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	38	15	23
Motor Vehicle accidents .....	6	2	4
All other accidents .....	6	2	4
Suicide .....	5	4	1
<b>TOTAL DEATHS .....</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>235</b>

Ward distribution of deaths :—

North, 143 ; South, 60 ; East, 74 ; West, 165 ; Bas-  
wich, 42.

Table 5.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN 1954.

Notifiable Diseases	At all Ages	Case Distribution as to Wards				Institutions and Hospitals	Under 1 year	1—2		2—3		3—4		4—5		5—10		10—15		15—20		20—25		25—45		45—65		65 & over	Removed to Hospital Isolation
		North	South	East	West	Baswick																							
Scarlet Fever . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	64 —	7 —	15 —	5 —	12 —	25 —	—	1 —	4 —	3 —	7 —	9 —	34 —	5 —	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14 —
Pneumonia . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	13 —	2 —	4 —	3 —	1 —	3 —	3 —	1 —	—	—	—	—	5 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 —	2 —	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	6 —	1 —	3 —	—	2 —	—	3 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 —	—	—	—	—	4 —	—	—	—	—	—	1 —
Measles . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	17 —	2 —	9 —	2 —	3 —	1 —	9 —	1 —	3 —	5 —	6 —	1 —	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9 —
Whooping Cough . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	40 —	4 —	1 —	7 —	25 —	3 —	1 —	2 —	8 —	4 —	8 —	8 —	10 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —
Dysentery . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	7 —	—	7 —	—	—	—	7 —	1 —	1 —	4 —	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 —
Food Poisoning . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	4 —	1 —	—	1 —	2 —	—	—	—	1 —	1 —	—	—	1 —	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	1 —
Meningococcal . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	2 —	—	—	—	2 —	—	2 —	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas . . . . . Cases .. Deaths	1 —	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1 —	1 —	—	—	—	—	1 —	1 —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	35 —	—	5 —	13 —	4 —	13 —	15 —	—	—	1 —	—	1 —	3 —	3 —	4 —	3 —	3 —	—	—	—	—	—	9 —	11 —	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths	3	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—







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